



## ARIZONA STATE SENATE

### Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session

#### FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1310

##### schools; common core; prohibition

##### Purpose

Prohibits the State Board of Education (SBE) from implementing the Common Core Standards, requires Arizona to withdraw from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) and makes other changes regarding educational standards and assessments.

##### Background

The Common Core Standards were developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative (CCSSI) that is composed of the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. The Common Core Standards are a set of educational English language arts and mathematics standards for students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. According to the CCSI website, 45 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories have adopted the Common Core Standards. The SBE adopted standards aligned to the Common Core Standards, in both English language arts and mathematics, in June, 2010 and began phasing the standards into schools during School Year 2012. Governor Jan Brewer issued an Executive Order in September, 2013 stating Arizona has the constitutional right to set its own education policies. The Order also required the standards adopted by the SBE in 2010 to be referred to as Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards.

PARCC is a consortium of 18 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The PARCC consortium is developing a set of K-12 English and math assessments based on measuring college and career readiness aligned to the Common Core State Standards. The assessments are designed to mark students' progress from the third grade through the end of high school and to provide teachers with timely information that informs instruction and student support. PARCC received a \$186 million grant through the U.S. Department of Education's Race to the Top assessment competition for the development and design of a next-generation assessment system. Member states in the PARCC consortium are Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Tennessee. Arizona became a Governing State in the PARCC consortium in the spring of 2010 and the PARCC assessments are to be ready for administration in School Year 2015.

##### Provisions

1. Prohibits the SBE from implementing the Common Core Standards.

**FACT SHEET**

**S.B. 1310**

**Page 2**

2. Voids any rules previously adopted by the SBE that conflict with the prohibition of the Common Core Standards.
3. Requires Arizona to withdraw from the PARCC consortium.
4. Requires the SBE to select as the statewide assessment mechanism to measure student academic performance an existing nationally administered standardized test currently accepted as a high school achievement and college entrance exam by at least 50 percent of the postsecondary institutions in the U.S.
5. Requires the Department of Education to contract with an independent entity to conduct a fiscal analysis of the projected cost of implementing the Common Core Standards.
6. Requires the contracted independent entity to have expertise in the development, implementation and assessment of curricular standards.
7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Prepared by Senate Research

February 18, 2014

KK/lS